



## THE TIN SOLDIER.

Once upon a time, two swords hung on the wall of a real soldier's room. One was a large sword and had been in a real war. The other was a little tin sword which the real soldier played with when he was a little boy.

When he hung the big sword on the wall after he came home from the war, he said: "You are much larger than this little fellow beside you, but you have never killed Indians, and he has."

Although he laughed when he said it, the little tin sword felt itself of great importance, and it did not mind in the least the size of the big sword which was many times as large as it was.

That night, when the house was still and dark, and the only light in the room was from the dying embers on the hearth, the little sword said to the big sword: "Is it true that you never killed an Indian?"

"I have never killed anyone," answered the big sword with dignity.

"What is the use of being a sword?" asked the little sword. "If you never have killed anyone, why, I have killed so many Indians that I cannot remember how many."

"I have been in battles, too," continued the little sword, "and cut down the enemy, and once a dog was a bear and I killed him, too."

"How could a dog be a bear?" asked the big sword, taking notice of the little sword for the first time when it was not asked a direct question.

"Because the little boy who had me," replied the little sword, "and once a cat was a tiger, and we went tiger hunting, too."

"How about the Indians?" asked the big sword. "were they real or play Indians?"

"Real, of course," answered the little sword; "everything was real that we did. The Indians were long trousers with feathers in the side of the legs and a band of long feathers sticking up around their heads. You should have heard them shout and give the war cry."

"Was there any blood shed?" asked the big sword, beginning to understand what the little sword was talking about better than it did itself.

"What is that?" asked the little sword.

"If you had ever been in real battles you would not ask," replied the big sword.

"But you have never killed anyone and I have," said the little sword. "I do not see why you should say I have never been in a real battle when you have never done anything worth telling of yourself."

"There is a great deal to be done in battle besides killing," replied the big sword. "I let the men who did the fighting and directed them. The general held me high above his head, so that all the soldiers who were following would know where to go and what to do, and I saw the enemy fall."

"I have been in battles, too," said the little sword, "but I do not like to talk about these things. Everything is peaceful now, and I am glad there is no red mark upon my shining blade."

"I guess if you had done such deeds as I have," said the little sword, "you still sure that he was the hero, 'you would want to tell all about them.'"

"My dear little tin sword," said the big sword, "do not seem to understand that you are not a real sword at all, but just a toy sword. The Indians you killed were little boys dressed in Indian costumes and played at being killed."

"Your battles were all make-believe, and the little boy who carried you has grown up and is a real soldier now. But don't you mind," said the big sword, "as the tin sword began to rattle uneasily on the wall, 'you were the first sword he carried and you were the one that taught him to honor his country, so you have a great deal for which to be thankful.'"

"We will divide honors. You were the first and I hope I am the last sword he will ever be called upon to carry for his country."

"The little tin sword grew quiet and the last ember on the hearth grew black. The room was dark, all was still, and the little tin sword was asleep."

**Aims of Boy Scouts.**

The Boy Scouts are not military. That has been clearly stated many times. Consideration for others, one of the chief lessons taught, would keep them from having any part in fomenting selfish war; but the discipline and training in all useful work and in concerted action would be of incalculable value in case the nation needed to call on its men for defense.

**Light and Strong.**

The bones of all flying birds are hollow, thus combining the greatest strength with the least weight.

**Bless of Ignorance.**

There is a great deal of truth in the old saying that a man never knows how ignorant he is until a child begins to ask him questions.

"Papa," said little Ethel, aged four, "where does the daylight go when the dark comes?"

**Get it in the Neck.**

Little Barbara—Brother Willie can't come to school. He got quincy.

Teacher—Where did he get it?

Little Barbara—He got it in the neck.

## A SPELLING MATCH.

Ten little children standing in a line.

"F-u-l-l-y, fully," then there were nine.

Nine puzzled faces, fearful of their fate.

"C-o-l-l-y, silly," then there were eight.

Eight pairs of blue eyes, bright as stars of heaven.

"B-u-s-y, busy," then there were seven.

Seven grave heads nodding, in an awful fix.

"L-a-d-y, lady," then there were six.

Six eager darlings, determined each to arrive.

"D-u-t-y, duty," then there were five.

Five hearts so anxious, beating sure and more.

"S-c-h-o-l-a-r, scholar," then there were four.

Four mouths like roscuds on a rose tree.

"M-e-r-r-y, merry," then there were three.

Three pairs of pink ears, listening keen and true.

"O-b-e-d-y, only," then there were two.

One head of yellow hair, bright in the sun.

"H-e-r-o, hero," and the spelling match was won!

—New Orleans Playmate.

## ENCOURAGE BOYS AND GIRLS

Progress of Club Work in Pennsylvania Is of Special Interest—Many Clubs Formed.

In view of the support which has been given the movement in recent years information lately secured by



Corn Raised by Pennsylvania Club Boy.

the agricultural extension department of the Pennsylvania State college on the progress of club work among the boys and girls of Pennsylvania is of special interest. The statistics are as follows:

Twenty-eight counties have reported a total of 541 corn clubs, 39 potato clubs, 44 garden clubs, 187 live stock clubs and 654 miscellaneous clubs. Definite figures on the number of domestic science clubs are lacking, but it is known that such clubs are well represented. The total number of members in agricultural and domestic science clubs reported in the state is 5,290. Ages of club members range from eight to twenty-one years.

It is with a view to lending aid in the advancement of this movement that the Pennsylvania School of Agriculture has designated an individual to direct this phase of extension work.

## MYSTIFYING CHEMICAL TRICK

Plain Blue Handkerchief Turns White When Worn—How Drops of Iodine Is Sufficient.

A plain blue handkerchief is shown to the audience. When the handkerchief is warmed it turns white and when heated resumes its former color. Make a starch paste and add enough water to the paste to thin it. Then add sufficient tincture of iodine to color the liquid blue; a few drops will be enough. Dye a white handkerchief with this blue liquid and when the handkerchief is dry it is ready for the trick.

## RAISE A MOTORCYCLE STAND

Time and Trouble Saved by Use of Door Spring—Does Its Little Trick Automatically.

A motorcycle may save the time and trouble of raising the stand when the machine is pushed off, by fastening one end of a door spring to the stand near the bottom, and the other end to a convenient place on the luggage carrier. While the machine is on the stand, the spring is stretched, but the removal of the weight releases it, and the stand is pulled back into place. —Popular Science Monthly.

**Aunt's Joy.**

"I told you he had Sabbath children," said the Sunday-school teacher, "that you should all try to make someone happy during the week. How many of you have?"

"I did," answered a boy promptly.

"That's nice, Johnny. What did you do?"

"I went to see my aunt, and she's always happy when I go home again."

**A Literary Journey.**

Tommy's mother wanted to go to town, so she said to his father: "Will you keep Tommy, or shall I take him to town?"

"I want to go with you," shouted Tommy.

"Go where?" his mother asked.

"To a-b-c," Tommy replied.

**Something to Satisfy.**

What is it we all like to have but never like to keep?—A good appetite.

**Goes Against the Grain.**

Why is good advice like a sickle?—Because it goes against the grain.

**Another Method.**

Jack was looking over the dictionary, and once he laughed aloud.

"Why are you laughing?" asked Dot.

"No, not interesting," answered Jack, "but amusing. It spells words so different from the way I spell them."

**Master and Driver.**

What is the difference between a schoolmaster and an engine driver?—One trains the mind and the other minds the train.

## In Woman's Realm

Evening Dress in Black That Comes From a Famous Parisian Establishment—Some of the Important Accessories of Dress That Must on No Account Be Neglected.



EVENING DRESS IN BLACK.

Anything from the establishment of Jenny, in Paris, may be counted upon to interpret the mode with delightful refinement. In the productions for this season there is a leaning toward black, in this house, which is especially apparent in models for evening gowns. One of them, in which silk net and tulle are combined in a way that will please the discriminating, is shown in the picture here. It has a full round skirt of the silk, shirred at the waist and finished with a ruche of the silk about the bottom and about the hips. There is a bodice of the tulle, with midwintery shoulders and puffed elbow sleeves, finished with a full ruche of the silk. It is draped in simple fashion at the front.

If the designer had stopped here there would be nothing lacking to make this an acceptable afternoon frock of a simple and attractive sort, but with nothing about it to bespeak the genius that is expressed by modes from the house of Jenny. Therefore the designer did not stop, but proceeded to veil the whole frock in a mist of net, and did this most artfully.

A flounce of the net is set on under the ruche about the hips and allowed to fall until it reaches a length more than two inches greater than that of the silk skirt. It is finished at the bottom with a narrow hem. A second flounce is set in in the same position and turned up over the ruche of silk. It is gathered in at the waist and forms a deep puff below the ruche.

The silk bodice is also covered with a drapery of net that is extended over the shoulders and veils the sleeves. A deep frill of doubled net is set in under the ruche of silk about the waist, and the net is included in the net veiling the sleeves.

In selecting a finishing touch the designer chose, as exactly suited to the gown, a gardenia and loops and ends of narrow ribbon in Nattier blue.

Such pretty afterthoughts of the designer often seize the attention before it is attracted by the gown itself. They nearly always betray a sense of fitness and a painstaking attention to detail that command admiration. But they have been known to betray a lack of above criticism.

The gown pictured was designed for a taller figure than that of the model posing in it. A silk-clad ankle and an elegant low shoe are needed to be in keeping with it.

**Capes and Sashes and many dainty**

small cape at the back but narrows to two slender points at the front. It is set on to a band and finished at the edge with hemstitching. Fine narrow lace insertion is put in at the back, at the ends of the front pieces, as shown in the picture. Embroidered dots are added to the lace decoration.

Narrow elany, hand crochet, and tatted insertions are recommended for the neckpieces. Val is always better than lace in the neck, and pretty, but has been in use so long that it has lost prestige. Nothing is prettier than tatted, either as a finishing for edges or in medallion or band inserts.

**Julie Bottmley**

**In Dainty Colors.**

One of the attractive features of the newest washable blouses is that they are in dainty, almost pastel, colors. Of late, blouses or handkerchiefs, linen, they have frills, "collets," sailor or high collars, outlined with narrow valencienne or flit lace. The sleeves are set in and a slight bishop puff at the lower part is gathered into a cuff.

**To Polish Tortoise Shell.**

Now that tortoise shell has once more come into public favor it is well to know a way in which to clean and polish it. When tortoise shell loses its luster from wear the polished surface may be restored to its original condition by carefully rubbing it with powdered rottenstone and oil. The rottenstone should be very carefully sifted through the finest muslin. When all scratches on the surface of the tortoise shell are thus removed, a brilliant polish may be given it by applying gentle friction with a piece of soft leather with which some jeweler's rouge has been applied.

**Hip Girdles Worn.**

The hip girdle of a season or so ago is returning—that is to say, it has been seen upon some very new frocks, both for morning and afternoon wear. Indeed, one suit of lightweight material displayed such a girle in full messaline draped about the hips. The wide hip girle is also occasionally worn with a washable separate skirt.

**elers, there were eight adult human beings and two dogs, the compartment was regarded as "complete," and no other passenger was admitted. Human passengers were doomed to be left behind, so that dogs provided with tickets should not be forced to yield their seats.**

**"Notter Crop Report.**

Him—"Will you share my lot?"

Her—"No; I don't like the crop you will gather from it." Him—"Crop of what?" Her—"Wild oats."

## BARN SERVING TWO PURPOSES

Horse Stable and Implement Shed in Convenient Proximity Under One Roof.

## PLAN HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL

Other Reasons Than the Saving Cost of Building Construction Can Be Advanced in Its Favor—Full Details of Its Construction.

By WILLIAM A. RADFORD.

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF CHARGE on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building work on the farm, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 127 Prairie avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only inclose two-cent stamp for reply.

On the average-size farm it is often not advisable to make separate buildings for all the various activities of the well-arranged and well-managed farm. Various combinations are made to cut down the cost of constructing necessary buildings, and at the same time sufficient room is provided so that each part of the combination can readily handle the work that it is intended to do.

The accompanying floor plan and perspective view show a combination that can be made with considerable success and satisfaction. Half of this barn is devoted to a horse stable and the other half is intended as an implement shed. There are several reasons why such a combination can be built cheaply so as to provide the best conditions for either part.

The floor can be made level over

double doors occupy the entire front of the shed part of the barn, which makes it possible to get out any piece of equipment that is wanted without disturbing the other machinery that may be stored in the shed at the time.

In the horse stable end there are standing stalls for six horses and also two box stalls, each ten feet in width, that can be used for any purpose. A small space is provided with a well-built cupboard, where the harness can be kept.

There is at least one window provided for each stall, and the double stall and the box stall each have two windows. A wide passageway is provided through the stable so that equipment of various kinds can pass through the barn to the equipment shed at the end.

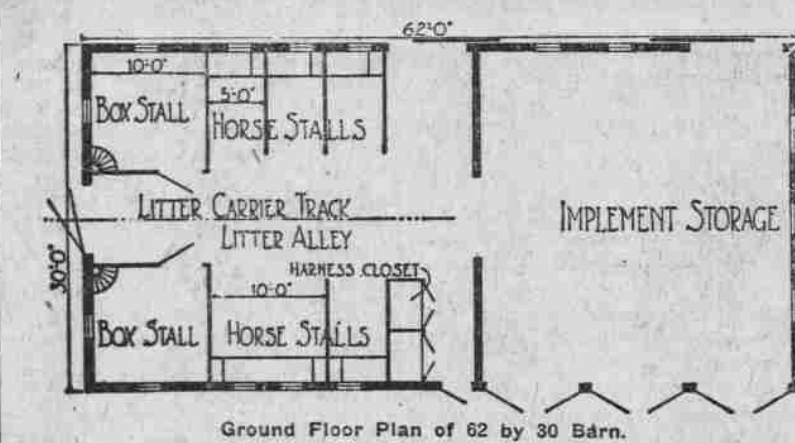
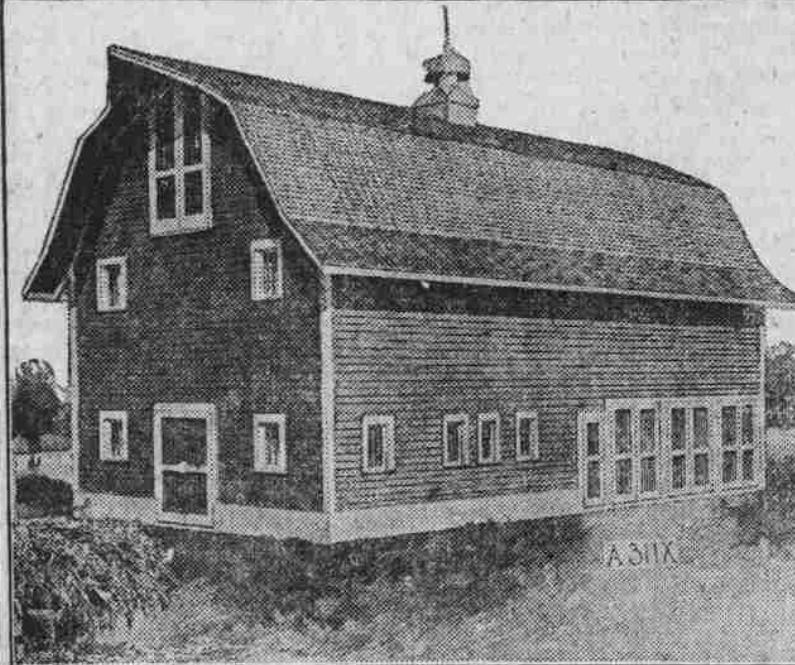
The foundation walls, which are of concrete, are carried above grade about 18 inches, which is a good feature, as it protects the frame from coming in contact with the wet ground. A concrete wall of this kind also forms an effective barrier against vermin.

A very large storage space for hay and straw is provided in the large room over the stable and shed. The roof is of the framed gambrel type, and is self-supporting, so that no columns or pillars are needed to block up the space in the upper part of the building. The trussed barn roof is almost universally used now because of this feature.

This particular plan shows a building such as would be most practical for the average-sized farm. The cost of construction would not be very high, and the arrangement would be very satisfactory to the man on the farm.

**Use of Barbed Wire.**

Some idea of the extensive use of barbed wire for trench entanglements may be gained from the fact that the shipments of wire from the United States to the allies now average more than a million pounds a month, and the total exports of barbed wire since last July amount to more than seven million pounds. The barbed wire is



entire building. The floors in the stalls can be made of some material over the concrete, but a concrete floor is very successful in the implement shed. The treated wood block floor is also used very often in buildings of this kind. Many farmers feel that a floor in an implement shed is an extravagance, but its presence makes it possible to keep the tools in the best possible condition, as well as the machines. More care will be taken in keeping all the farm machinery in good condition if the floor is built so that the building can be kept clean.

Nine feet of headroom is generally provided in horse stables, and this same height is about right for a shed, where the farm implements are to be stored. The floor under the mow can therefore be made low level.

Good tight doors and windows are absolutely necessary in a shed in which machinery is kept. In addition to the rain and snow that must be kept out, there are also small animals of all kinds, and especially chickens, which have been known to enter the shed was put up as a special home for them, but they must be excluded if the machinery is to be kept in the proper condition. Good construction and doors that will not be torn off their hinges are the best methods of preventing trouble from this source.

If windows should accidentally become broken they should be repaired immediately, as they would be in the case of any of the other farm buildings. The implement shed is most often neglected, but such should not be the case, for no one will keep machinery in good condition in a ramshackle building.

The implement shed can be finished up in any way that is desired by the owner. It is very necessary that a work bench be provided and it should be of good size to readily handle the work that is being repaired. This can be placed along the wall under the windows, where good light will be available. All the tools necessary for repair work of all kinds can be kept in cabinets or in racks that can be built along the walls near the bench. Supplies of paints and oils can be kept under the bench.

Broad doors are provided in the plan, so that the various farm implements can be taken through them easily. Many of these are of good size, so that plenty of door room should be furnished. Three sets of

shipped direct to England, and from there transhipped to France and Italy. This wire is woven in complicated masses in front of the trenches, and has to be replaced when it is destroyed by artillery fire, which frequently happens. Of late the allies have been ordering considerable quantities of an extra heavy wire, with especially large barbed prongs. The Germans, too, are well provided with barbed wire entanglements, but very little of it is of American manufacture, although an occasional shipment is said to find its way into Germany through Denmark or Sweden.—Springfield Union.

**Minerals of British Columbia.**

The annual mineral output of British Columbia is valued at approximately \$30,000,000. The figures for 1913 exceeded that amount, while the product last year was some \$4,000,000 short of that of the previous year. The decrease in the value of minerals produced in the province last year, as compared with 1913, was due to the European war, which disturbed the metal markets throughout the world, producing a depressing effect on the industry in British Columbia, says an official report.

**War on the "Peace Hat."**

The "peace hat," the newest fad in spring millinery, has started war. The hat is trimmed with a dove of peace. The dove is dead. There's the rub. The friends of the birds, the National Association of Audubon Societies especially, say the dove must go before they will set the hat on their heads. Secretary Pearson of the association has declared war on the hat wherever it is found that the dove is a real dove. Some admirers of the newest fad have declared that it's only a chicken-feather dove.

**In Doubt.**

Doubleyew—"What would you think if I should tell you that I had eaten four dozen hard-boiled eggs at a sitting?"

Ecks—"It would be a question of your veracity against your voracity."

**Checher L'Homme.**

"Why won't she marry you?" is there another man in the case?"

"I'm afraid so."

"Do you know who he is?"

"Yes, her father."

**Choose Success or Failure.**

The only road to advancement is to do your work so well that you are always ahead of the demands of your position. Our employers do not decide whether we shall stay where we are or go on and up; we decide that matter ourselves. Success or failure are not chosen for us; we choose them ourselves.—Hamilton Wright Mable.

**Optimistic Thought.**

Who judges unjustly condemns himself.

## The American Christian and the Times in Which We Live

By REV. JAMES M. GRAY, D. D.

Dean of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.

TEXT—And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that ye be not troubled: for these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.—Matthew 24: 7, 8.

Never in the memory of living man did these words of our Savior find such fulfillment as today. Where there is not actual war there is rumor of it. At ready more than a dozen nations, and among them the greatest in the eastern hemisphere, are in conflict, while two or three more are on the verge of it.

But it is the conditions in our land that most deeply occupy our thoughts. No matter what our politics, we will not affirm that our chief magistrate is a mere alarmist; and therefore when he makes such speeches and utters such warnings, it is difficult to believe that our peace is not seriously imperiled.

**What Is Our Christian Duty?**

What is the duty of the American Christian in such times? Of course, we have in mind the Christian citizen who has a duty and responsibility to the state and to God not shared by others, however sympathetic they may be.

His first duty is to become intelligent as to what the situation is. How vast is the scope of his investigation? Should we interfere in Mexico? Do our relations with any of the other foreign countries demand that we should prepare for war? And are we prepared for such a war? And is it true that to be any more prepared is to provoke war? These are not speculative questions, but stern realities. They are not worldly, there is a sense in which they come very close to the center of our religious life. Good men are considering them, there is earnest difference of opinion about them, and sooner or later we must cast our influence one side or the other. This must be done in the light of God's Word as we understand it; and it must be done, not merely with the thought of results in the present time, but in that day when we must give account to God for the deeds done in the body.

2. His next duty is to exercise the rights and privileges which the sacred obligations of a citizen. Humanly speaking, ours is a "government of the people, by the people and for the people," and we cannot waive the responsibilities it entails without inviting disaster. We have a sacred duty to express our opinions if we possess any. The press is open to many, the use of the pen in private correspondence, and, thank God, speech is still free. Not in anger should we discuss these questions, not in the spirit of partisanship, not to foment strife or to make a breach between men, but as Christians who wish their country to be right and to please God, we should bear our testimony when occasion serves.

And then there is the sacred right of franchise at the primary as well as the general election.

**The Lack of Prayer.**

3. This brings us to his chief duty, that of prayer. Real, intelligent, spirit-energized prayer for our land and its rulers is not common even in our pulpits, outside of the liturgical churches, at least, and is still less common at the weekly prayer meeting. And inasmuch as the family altar has so fallen into neglect one wonders how much prayer is offered anywhere, as by laymen? And yet are the home, the church and the school of all places in the world, those where the highest and best of our nation are to be kept in view?

One could not but be struck by a remark of Admiral Beatty of the British navy, who, in addressing a communication to a London society some months ago, said, that in his opinion, the present war would not be brought to an end, and his country come out victorious, until the latter was stirred by a general revival. He is not the only leader in that nation who believes her present afflictions are in some sense a judgment upon her for sins. And how truly may the same be said for any or all of the other nations now engaged in war?

**General Grant in "Memoirs"** declares that our Civil war was a judgment upon us for our previous conduct toward Mexico. God punishes nations as he does individuals, only they must get all that is coming to them now, while individuals may bathe in the worst of theirs in the time to come.

And yet the punishment of nations is that of the individuals who compose them, hence it is the most practical and moving reason why Christians of the United States should beseech the Lord not only to keep us out of war, but out of that sin which must bring war.

**The Comfort in the Text.**

But there is comfort in the text—"See that ye be not troubled." This belongs to the sincere disciple of Jesus Christ. There is such a thing for him as being in the trouble and yet not of it. He cannot but experience sorrow, and loss and pain, but there are compensations for him that the world knows nothing of.

And then that "end" of which the Savior speaks! Before it comes, he himself will come for his redeemed people, who will be caught up to meet him in the air. Oh, it is a blessed thing to be a Christian, and never is the comfort greater than in such times as these.

**My Part.**

Is there anything in all the teachings that man has had from his fellow man, all that has come down to him from the lips of God, that is nobler, that is more far-reaching than this—to be my best not simply for my own sake, but for the sake of the world into which, setting my best, I shall make that world more complete, shall do my little part to renew and to recreate it in the image of God?

It is not on earth that heaven's justice ends.—Dickens.

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